



Ninety-Eighth Legislature - Second Session - 2004
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 826

Chairperson: Ed Schrock
Committee: Natural Resources
Date of Hearing: February 11, 2004

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 826 clarifies the language setting the boundaries of Nebraska game refuges by defining the phrase "bank of the river." The bill grants the Department of Natural Resources the authority to determine the banks of the river using the set out definition and directs the Department to maintain maps designating the banks and the boundaries of the game refuges. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission would then utilize the maps maintained by the Department in posting the boundaries of the refuges. Further, the Department is given the discretion to determine when the river banks need to be updated and make new maps accordingly. Anyone disagreeing with the determination of the river banks can file an appeal in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

The Garden County refuge is most in need of clarification since litigation surrounding the refuge has been abundant in the past few years. Therefore, the bill requires that a map of the banks of the North Platte River be completed by January 1, 2005 and the other three refuges maps be completed by January 1, 2006.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Philip Erdman